

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title	Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project
Brief Description	<p>The overall goal of this project is to is to completely restore and/or preserve the hydrologic function of four degraded meadow systems on the Sierra National Forest within the Upper and Lower Chiquito Creek Watersheds. The outcomes would include water quality impacts from accelerated erosion being eliminated and water storage and residence time being maximized, increasing annual water availability to riparian-aquatic systems, wildlife, and livestock.</p> <p>Long Meadow (near lower Chiquito Creek campground), Cold Springs Meadow, Cold Springs West Meadow, and un-named meadow 506M91 have been identified as high priority sites for restoration. All of these meadows have compromised hydrologic function, with vertically and laterally unstable streams at the downstream end of each meadow. If left untreated, these “headcuts” will migrate upstream, creating deeply incised gullies, which will introduce excessive amounts of sediment into the stream (compromising water quality) and, eventually, dewater the meadows.</p> <p>Restoration of Long Meadow is particularly important because it currently supports a community of mountain yellow legged frogs, a U.S. Forest Service sensitive species.</p> <p>Impacts from roads and/or OHV tracks in the vicinity of these meadows will also be addressed by either 1) bringing the road or track up to maintenance standards or 2) closing/obliterating the OHV tracks if they are not well sited.</p> <p>This will be a collaborative effort between the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council (YSRCDC) and the U.S. Forest Service. The YSRCDC will organize and offer two field trips to stakeholders and, with the assistance</p> <p>PAGE 2 OF 3</p> <p>of the U.S. Forest Service, help educate the public on meadow function as an important component of healthy forest watersheds.</p> <p>Project Summary and Deliverables</p>

	<p>The Project will entail the stabilization and/or restoration of four meadows on the Sierra National Forest, within the upper Chiquito Creek Watershed. The desired condition (outcome) for the restoration projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stabilization and preservation of 31 acres of montane meadow; • 1 mile of improved and stabilized stream channel; • Cessation of erosion and impacts to water quality from the meadows; • Protection of 0.3 stream miles of mountain yellow legged frog habitat; • 2 acre reduction in encroaching conifers within the project meadows; • 0.5 acre reduction of invasive noxious weeds; • Approximately 0.3 miles of tracks and system roads will be closed and/or restored to prevent impacts to adjacent meadows; • Two field trips to educate the community and surrounding stakeholders on the direct and indirect benefits of meadow restoration and the potential risks associated with climate change; and, • Involve stakeholders with restoration work as appropriate.
Total Requested Amount	40,147.42
Other Fund Proposed	30,389.00
Total Project Cost	70,536.00
Project Category	Site Improvement/Restoration
Project Area/Size	31
Project Area Type	Acres
Have you submitted to SNC this fiscal year?	No
Is this application related to other SNC funding?	No

Project Results
Resource protection

Project Purpose	Project Purpose Percent
Water Quality	

County

Madera

Sub Region
South

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Mr. Steve Haze,
Title	Vice President
Organization	Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
Primary Address	P.O. Box 415, , , North Fork, CA, 93643
Primary Phone/Fax	559-877-8664 Ext.
Primary Email	Stevehaze007@gmail.com

PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

Project Location

Address:	57839 Road 225, 37.415811, -119.493012 (Cold Springs, Cold Springs West, 506M91), 37.407494, -119.394822 (Long Meadow)., North Fork, CA, 93643 United States
Water Agency:	Mariposa Public Utilities District
Latitude:	37.415811
Longitude:	-119.49301
Congressional District:	n/a
Senate:	n/a
Assembly:	n/a
Within City Limits:	No
City Name:	N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grant Application Type

Grant Application Type:
Category One Site Improvement

Grant Application Type:
Category One Site Improvement

PROJECT OTHER CONTACTS INFORMATION

Other Grant Project Contacts

Name:	Mr. Keith Andy Stone,
Project Role:	Day-to-Day Responsibility
Phone:	5598772218
Phone Ext:	3143
E-mail:	kstone@fs.fed.us

UPLOADS

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
Completed Application Checklist
Table of Contents
Full Application Form
Full Application Form
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Narrative Descriptions
Detailed Budget Form
NEPA Documentation
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Letters of Support

Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Long Term Management Plan
Project Location Map
Topographic Map
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Photos of the Project Site
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number

Land Tenure- Only for Site Improvement Projects

To preserve the integrity of the uploaded document, headers, footers and page numbers have not been added by the system.

Project Name: **Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project**

Applicant: **Yosemite/Sequoia resource Conservation Development Council**

1. ☒ Completed Application Checklist
2. ☒ Table of Contents
3. ☒ Full Application Project Information Form
4. ☒ Authorization to Apply or Resolution
5. ☒ Narrative Descriptions
 - a. ☒ Detailed Project Description
 - ☒ Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
 - ☒ Project Summary
 - ☒ Environmental Setting
 - b. ☒ Workplan and Schedule
 - c. ☒ Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements
 - d. ☒ Organizational Capacity
 - e. ☒ Cooperation and Community Support
 - f. ☒ Long Term Management and Sustainability
 - g. ☒ Performance Measures
6. Supplemental and Supporting documents
 - a. ☒ Detailed Budget Form
 - b. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable
 - ☐ **N/A** Restrictions / Agreements
 - ☐ **N/A** Regulatory Requirements / Permits
 - ☐ **N/A** California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation
 - ☒ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation
 - c. Cooperation and Community Support
 - ☒ Letters of Support
 - d. Long-Term Management and Sustainability
 - ☒ Long-Term Management Plan
 - e. Maps and Photos
 - ☒ Project Location Map
 - ☐ **N/A** Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s)
 - ☒ Topographic Map
 - ☒ Photos of the Project Site
 - f. Additional submission requirements
 - ☐ **N/A** Acquisition Schedule
 - ☐ **N/A** Willing Seller Letter
 - ☐ **N/A** Real Estate Appraisal

- ☐ **N/A** Conservation Easement Language
- g. Additional submission requirements
 - ☐ **N/A** Land Tenure Documents
 - ☐ **N/A** Site Plan
 - ☐ **N/A** Leases or Agreements

I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate.

Signed *(Authorized Representative)*

Date

Name and Title *(print or type)*

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SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

PROPOSITION 84 - PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

PROJECT NAME

Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project

APPLICANT NAME *(Legal name, address, and zip code)*

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
P.O. Box 415
North Fork CA 93643

PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING

Name and title – type or print

Phone

Email Address

☒ Mr. Steve Haze, President

559-877-8634

info@ysrcandd.org

☐ Ms.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION *(At least one entry is required)*

Name: Norman L. Allinder

Phone Number: (559) 675-7821

Email address: mc_planning@madera-county.com

NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY (OR AGENCIES) CONTACT INFORMATION *(At least one entry is required)*

Name: Mariposa Public Utilities District

Phone Number: 209-966-2515

Email address: mpud@sti.net

Name: Madera County Flood Control and Water Conservation Agency

Phone Number: 559-675-7703

Email address: info@madera-county.com

☐ **Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition**

Project area: Sierra National Forest

Total Acres: 31 acres

SNC Portion (if different): _____

Select one primary Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition deliverable

☐ Restoration

☐ Enhancement

☒ Resource Protection

<p>Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank): <u>1.3 miles</u></p> <p>SNC Portion (if different): _____</p> <p>For Conservation Easement Acquisitions Only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal Included</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Will submit appraisal by _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development / Improvement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Easement</p>								
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Project Activities</p>	<p>Select <u>one</u> primary Pre-Project deliverable</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Permit</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Plan</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan	
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d. Long-Term Management and Sustainability

☒ Long-Term Management Plan

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SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

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APPLICANT NAME *(Legal name, address, and zip code)*

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council

P.O. Box 415

North Fork CA 93643

PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING

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RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF YOSEMITE/SEQUOIA RC&D COUNCIL DISTRICT
APPLICATION TO THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY GRANT PROGRAM

DATED JANUARY 2012

Resolution

Resolved by the Yosemite/Sequoia RC&D Council that the application be made to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to obtain the Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Grant, and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the "Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project". The Vice President of the Yosemite/Sequoia RC&D Council is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Authorized Original Signature: _____



Printed Name: _____

STEVE HAZE

Title: _____

1ST VICE PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Project Goal

Stable montane meadows serve a vital role as water storage, release, and filtration systems, as such it is essential that the hydrologic function of meadows be preserved, improved, or restored. The overall goal of this project is to to completely restore and/or preserve the hydrologic function of four degraded meadow systems on the Sierra National Forest within the Upper and Lower Chiquito Creek watersheds such that water quality impacts from accelerated erosion is eliminated and water storage and residence time is maximized, increasing annual water availability to riparian-aquatic systems, wildlife, and livestock.

Project Scope

Meadows are sensitive to changes in the watershed and can be adversely affected by land management activities such as road building, timber harvest operations, grazing, and fire suppression. Cumulatively, these activities (coupled with climate change) have put stressors on forest watersheds and their associated riparian-aquatic areas. This has resulted in unstable stream channels and gully formation in meadows. Where gully formation is severe enough, complete dewatering of a meadow system can occur and the water quality severely impacted by accelerated

erosion from unstable channel banks. Moreover, degraded meadow systems will have lowered ground water tables, resulting in a change to soil moisture conditions. This can lead to conifer encroachment and an accelerated successional change to forest, with a complete loss of the meadow-riparian ecotype. Successional reforestation of meadows is a natural process, but in many cases, anthropogenic stressors have greatly accelerated this process beyond the range of natural variability.

Long Meadow (near lower Chiquito Creek campground), Cold Springs Meadow, Cold Springs West Meadow, and un-named meadow 506M91 have been identified as high priority sites for restoration. All of these meadows have compromised hydrologic function, with vertically and laterally unstable streams at the downstream end of each meadow. If left untreated, these “headcuts” will migrate upstream, creating deeply incised gullies, which will introduce excessive amounts of sediment into the stream (compromising water quality) and, eventually, dewater the meadows. Stabilization of the headcuts will be accomplished by the construction of rock step-pools and re-vegetation of denuded channel banks by native sod and live-stake willow plantings. The step-pools will mimic natural channel morphology and will act to dissipate the energy of the water currently eroding the headcuts and channel banks. Where appropriate, additional in-stream rock structures (e.g., cross-vanes or J-hooks) will be placed to reduce near bank shear stress near unstable sections of channel bank and/or where grade control is needed. Restoration of Long Meadow is particularly important because it currently supports a community of mountain yellow legged frogs, a Forest Service sensitive species. Impacts from roads and/or OHV tracks in the vicinity of these meadows will also be addressed by either 1) bringing the road or track up to maintenance standards or 2) closing/obliterating the OHV tracks if they are not well sited.

This will be a collaborative effort between the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council (YSRCDC) and the U.S. Forest Service. The YSRCDC will organize and offer two field trips to stakeholders and, with the assistance of the U.S. Forest Service, help educate the public on meadow function as an important component of healthy forest watersheds.

Project Summary and Deliverables

The Project will entail the stabilization and/or restoration of four meadows on the Sierra National Forest, within the upper Chiquito Creek watershed. The desired condition (outcome) for the restoration projects include:

- Stabilization and preservation of 31 acres of montane meadow;
- 1 mile of improved and stabilized stream channel.
- Cessation of erosion and impacts to water quality from the meadows;
- Protection of 0.3 stream miles of mountain yellow legged frog habitat;
- 2 acre reduction in encroaching conifers within the project meadows;
- 0.5 acre reduction of invasive noxious weeds;
- Approximately 0.3 miles of tracks and system roads will be closed and/or restored to prevent impacts to adjacent meadows; and
- Two field trips to educate the community and surrounding stakeholders on the direct and indirect benefits of meadow restoration and the potential risks associated with climate change.
- Involve stakeholders with restoration work as appropriate

Environmental Setting

The meadow restoration project areas occur within the upper Chiquito Creek watershed, located in the north-central part of the Sierra National Forest, just south of Yosemite National Park (Figures 1 and 2). Current land uses include varied recreational activities, fuels management projects, commercial hazard tree removal, livestock grazing, and watershed restoration projects.

Workplan and Schedule

Detailed Project Deliverables	Timeline
SNC Grant Authorization	June, 2012
Develop Collection Agreement with U.S. Forest Service.	September 2012
Six month progress report SNC	December, 2012
Hiring of Forest Service crews and first field trip (USFS/YSRCDC).	February-June, 2013
Twelve month progress report to SNC	June 2013
Procure and deliver restoration materials (USFS).	July-September, 2013
Removal encroaching conifers (USFS).	July- September, 2013
Field Trip #1 (pre-restoration tour)	August, 2013
Begin meadow restoration (Long Meadow, Cold Springs Meadow including noxious weed eradication)	August –October, 2013
Harvest and live-stake planting of native willow at restoration sites and installation of exclosure.	October, 2013
Eighteen month progress report SNC	December, 2013
Hiring of Forest Service crews and second field trip (USFS/YSRCDC).	February-June, 2014
Complete meadow restoration (Cold Springs West and 506M91)	July-September, 2014
Field Trip #2 (post-restoration tour)	September, 2014
Continued harvest and live-stake planting of native willow at restoration sites. Construction of exclosures.	October, 2014
Inspection of restoration sites	July, 2015
Repair (if necessary) of restoration sites and additional live stake willow plantings.	September-October, 2015
Final Report to SNC	December, 2015

Restrictions/Agreements

No property restrictions apply. All project activity will occur on National Forest System Lands and be implemented by the U.S. Forest Service.

Regulatory Requirements and Permits

The projects qualify for Categorical Exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and have a water quality waiver with the State of California, Regional Water Quality Control Board. As such, further permitting by other State and Federal agencies is not required.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA has been completed under Categorical Exclusion (36 CFR 220.6 (e) (7)). The disturbance footprint is less than five acres, there are no impacts to listed species, and no heavy equipment will

be used in the meadows, thus these projects qualify for a CEQA exemption under 15333, Small Habitat Restoration projects.

Organizational Capacity

This project will be a collaborative effort between the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council (YSR CDC) and the U.S. Forest Service, Sierra National Forest. The YSR CDC has extensive experience managing and administering grants and watershed programs and will act as fiscal agent and coordinate public outreach and education.

The U.S. Forest Service has the organizational and scientific expertise to implement and monitor the restoration activities. Project implementation will be managed by a journey level hydrologist with Rosgen Certification. The rest of the Forest Service team will be made up of experienced hydrologic technicians, journey level resource scientists, and professional equipment operators.

Cooperation and Community Support

The YSR CDC, with assistance from its partners, works on a variety of natural resource conservation and education project and programs within the foothill communities of four counties. Partners include; Tribal Governments, Fire Safe Councils, Resource Conservation Districts, Board of Supervisors, Community Development Councils and other grass root non-profit groups. These partnerships help leverage public involvement in local restoration projects like this while also providing capacity to the project as a whole. This project will also involve the Sierra National Forest Supervisor's Office "Generation Green Stewardship Crews" project, which is associated with the Central California Consortium's proposal to enlist youth groups to assist in meadow restoration efforts within the Upper Chiquito Creek watershed.

Long Term Management and Sustainability

All restoration work in the project meadows will be protected from livestock or human impacts by a fenced enclosure for a minimum of five years to allow for full vegetative recovery. The restoration sites will be inspected by a U.S Forest Service journey level hydrologist biannually to ensure proper function of the restoration structures. If modifications and/or repairs to structures are needed, a prescription will be developed by June of that inspection year and maintenance carried out in August or September. The health and vigor of the native sod and willow used to stabilize the restoration sites will also be evaluated. If additional plantings are required, they will be conducted each year at the appropriate time until complete and stable re-vegetation has occurred.

Performance Measures

Linear Stream Bank Protected

- Beasore Creek –880 feet of stream bank will be restored/stabilized downstream of the primary restoration structure. 1,400 linear feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.
- Long Meadow Creek – 4500 feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.
- Un-named Tributary to NF Willow Creek – 3,000 feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.
- Un-named tributary to Beasore Creek – 1280 feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.

Acres of Meadow Preserved

- Cold Springs Meadow – 12 acres

- Cold Springs Meadow West – 7 acres
- Long Meadow - 8 acres
- Meadow 506M91 - 4 acres

Mass Pollutant Reduced Per Year

- Use of the Rosgen “BANCS” model to quantify bank erosion in the gullied and denuded parts of the project meadows. The model allows for a quantitative analysis of cubic yards/year and tons/year of sediment from selected study banks.

Supplemental and Supporting Documents

Detailed Budget Form

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Hydrologist	\$2,682.48	\$335.31	\$335.31	\$335.31		\$3,688.41
GS-05 Crew Boss	\$3,367.38	\$140.32	\$140.32			\$3,648.02
GS-05 Crew Member	\$3,622.08					\$3,622.08
GS-03 Crew Member	\$3,513.44	\$125.48	\$125.48			\$3,764.40
GS-03 Crew Member	\$3,513.44					\$3,513.44
GS-03 Crew Member	\$3,513.44					\$3,513.44
Community outreach & execution of 2 fields trips	\$900.00	\$900.00				\$1,800.00
DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$21,112.26	\$1,501.11	\$601.11	\$335.31	\$0.00	\$23,549.79

SECTION TWO INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Rock (includes material, truck, labor, equipment, and haul)	\$972.00					
Rock Bars	\$100.00					
Corrugated Tubing	\$250.00					
Sand Bags	\$50.00					
Loader	\$1,500.00					
Power Wheel Barrows	\$1,200.00					
Fencing and fencing supplies	\$3,200.00					
Metal Landscaping Stakes (8 in)	\$400.00					
Vehicles and Trailers	\$3,488.10					
Monitoring Hydrologist	0	\$335.31	\$335.31	\$335.31		
Maintenance - Labor	0	\$265.80	\$265.80			
Maintenance- Material	0	\$100.00	\$100.00			
Mileage for field trips	\$100.00	\$100.00				
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$11,260.10	\$801.11	\$701.11	\$335.31	\$0.00	\$13,097.63
PROJECT TOTAL:	\$32,372.36	\$2,302.22	\$1,302.22	\$670.62	\$0.00	\$36,647.42

SECTION THREE						Total
Administrative Costs (Costs may not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost) :						
*Organization operating/overhead costs	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00				\$3,500.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	\$34,122.36	\$4,052.22	\$1,302.22	\$670.62	\$0.00	\$40,147.42

SECTION FOUR OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
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USFS NEPA Analysis and Decision Memo

District Ranger	\$449.00					\$449.00
Wildlife Biologist	\$584.00					\$584.00
Fisheries	\$760.00					\$760.00
Hydrologist	\$672.00					\$672.00
Botanist	\$347.00					\$347.00
Range Ecologist	\$333.00					\$333.00
Archeology	\$692.00					\$692.00
Siviculture	\$326.00					\$326.00
Engineering	\$324.00					\$324.00
Soils	\$384.00					\$384.00
Recreation	\$302.00					\$302.00
Vehicle Cost	\$950.00					\$950.00
Supplies and Materials	\$550.00					\$550.00

USFS Fieldwork to support NEPA Analysis

Hydrologist	\$1,334.00					\$1,334.00
Hydrology Crew	\$5,320.00					\$5,320.00
Wildlife Biologist	\$1,168.00					\$1,168.00
Wildlife Tech	\$508.00					\$508.00
Archeologist	\$1,292.00					\$1,292.00

Archeology Tech	\$1,216.00					\$1,216.00
Botanist	\$1,388.00					\$1,388.00
Botany Crew	\$2,128.00					\$2,128.00
Range Ecologist	\$1,332.00					\$1,332.00
Recreation	\$1,208.00					\$1,208.00
Fisheries Biologist	\$1,536.00					\$1,536.00
Soil Scientist	\$1,536.00					\$1,536.00
Vehicles	\$1,250.00					\$1,250.00
Supplies and materials	\$2,500.00					\$2,500.00
Total Other Contributions:	\$30,389.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,389.00

Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements

- Restrictions/ Agreements – N/A (see narrative)
- Regulatory Requirements – N/A (see narrative)
- CEQA Documentation – N/A (see narrative)
- National Environmental Policy Act Documentation (see attached, page)

Letters of Support (attached)

North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California, Foundation for Resource Conservation, Sierra VISTA National Scenic Byway Association Community Development Council, Southern Sierra Environmental Consulting (original pending), Central Sierra Watershed Committee, Madera County Supervisor, Sierra National Forest, Supervisor's Office - Central California Consortium(original; pending), Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District.

Long Term Management and Sustainability Plan

All restoration work in the project meadows will be protected from livestock or human impacts by a fenced enclosure for a minimum of five years to allow for full vegetative recovery. The restoration sites will be inspected by a U.S Forest Service journey level hydrologist biannually to ensure proper function of the restoration structures. If modifications or repairs to structures are needed, a prescription will be developed by June of that inspection year and maintenance carried out in August or September. The health and vigor of the native sod and willow used to stabilize the restoration sites will also be evaluated. If additional plantings are required, they will be conducted each year at the appropriate time until complete and stable re-vegetation has occurred. The table below outlines the long term management schedule for the project restoration sites:

Management Activity	Date
Project Implementation (Phase One)	October, 2013
Project Implementation (Phase Two)	October, 2014
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2013-2015
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2015
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2015
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2016
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2016
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2016
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2016
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2016
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2017
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2017
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2017
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2017
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2018
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2018
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2018
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2018
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2019
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2019
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2019
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2019
Permanently remove enclosure but continue to monitor and repair as necessary.	June, 2020 – October, 2024

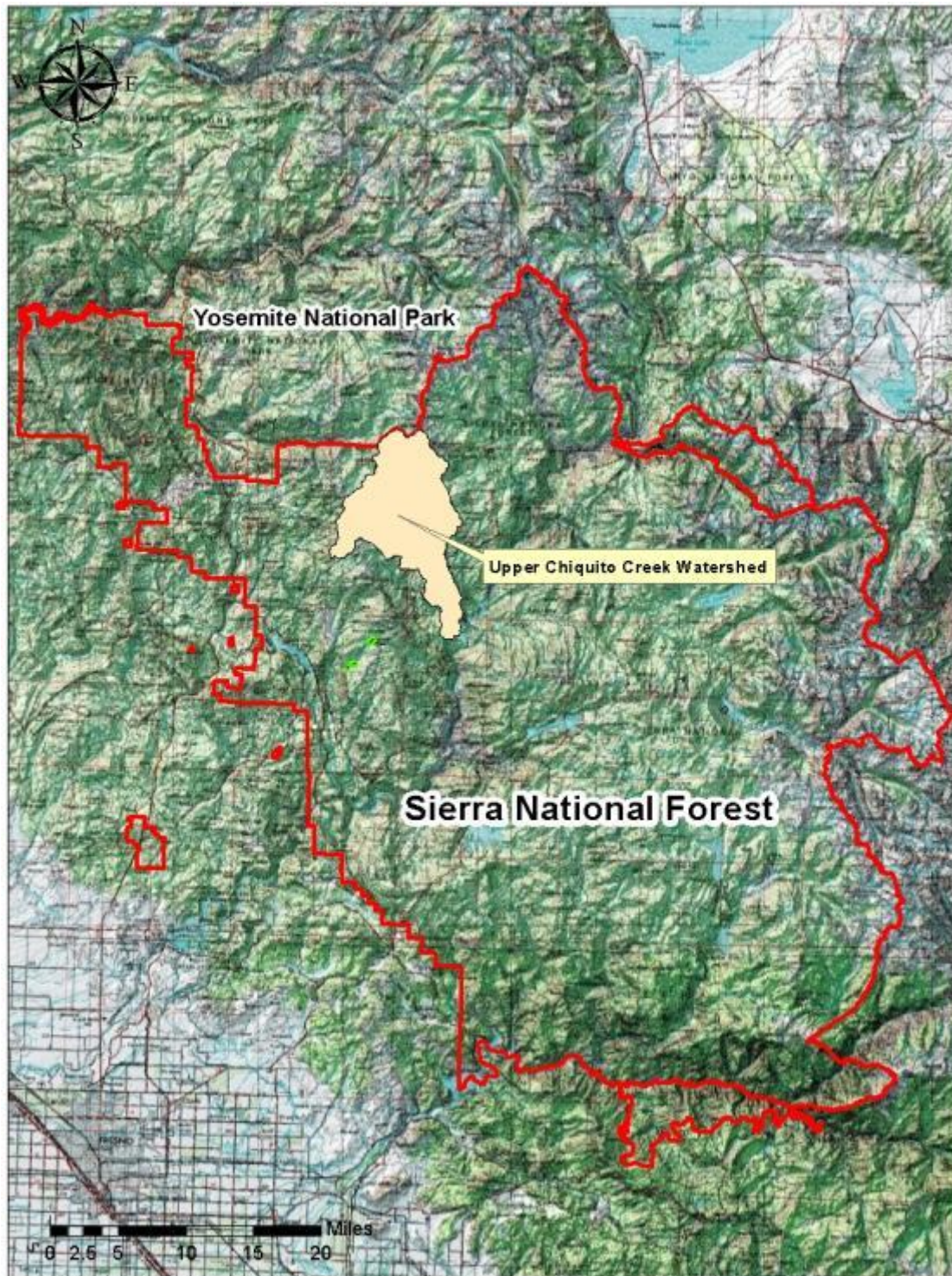


Figure 1. General Location map showing the Sierra National Forest in relation to the project watershed (upper Chiquito Creek).



Figure 2. Topographic map of the upper Chiquito Creek watershed. The general restoration sites are depicted by the call outs. Site-specific maps are included in figures 3 and 4.



Figure 3. Cold Springs Meadow Complex restoration sites, which include Cold Springs Meadow, Cold Springs West, and un-named meadow 506M91.



Figure 4. Long Meadow restoration sites near lower Chiquito Campground.



Figure 5. Photos of channel incision and headcut development in the Cold Springs Meadow Complex.



Figure 6. Headcut development along Long Meadow drainage, which is within mountain yellow-legged frog habitat.

Additional Submission Requirements

Restoration activities will occur on National Forest Systems Land and is thus under federal jurisdiction. All project activity will be implemented by the U.S. Forest Service and thus no property restrictions, other documentation, or evaluations apply.

- Acquisition Schedule – N/A
- Willing Seller Letter – N/A
- Real Estate Appraisal - N/A
- Conservation Easement Language – N/A
- Land Tenure Documents – N/A
- Site Plan – N/A
- Leases or Agreements - N/A

Other Attachments:

- Upper Chiquito Creek Watershed Restoration NEPA Decision Memo
- Authorization to Apply
- Letters of Support

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF YOSEMITE/SEQUOIA RC&D COUNCIL DISTRICT
APPLICATION TO THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY GRANT PROGRAM

DATED JANUARY 2012

Resolution

Resolved by the Yosemite/Sequoia RC&D Council that the application be made to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to obtain the Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Grant, and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the "Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project". The Vice President of the Yosemite/Sequoia RC&D Council is here by authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Authorized Original Signature: _____

Printed Name: STEVE HAZE

Title: 1ST VICE PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Project Goal

Stable montane meadows serve a vital role as water storage, release, and filtration systems, as such it is essential that the hydrologic function of meadows be preserved, improved, or restored. The overall goal of this project is to completely restore and/or preserve the hydrologic function of four degraded meadow systems on the Sierra National Forest within the Upper and Lower Chiquito Creek watersheds such that water quality impacts from accelerated erosion is eliminated and water storage and residence time is maximized, increasing annual water availability to riparian-aquatic systems, wildlife, and livestock.

Project Scope

Meadows are sensitive to changes in the watershed and can be adversely affected by land management activities such as road building, timber harvest operations, grazing, and fire suppression. Cumulatively, these activities (coupled with climate change) have put stressors on forest watersheds and their associated riparian-aquatic areas. This has resulted in unstable stream channels and gully formation in meadows. Where gully formation is severe enough, complete dewatering of a meadow system can occur and the water quality severely impacted by accelerated erosion from unstable channel banks. Moreover, degraded meadow systems will have lowered ground water tables, resulting in a change to soil moisture conditions. This can lead to conifer encroachment and an accelerated successional change to forest, with a complete loss of the meadow-riparian ecotype. Successional reforestation of meadows is a natural process, but in many cases, anthropogenic stressors have greatly accelerated this process beyond the range of natural variability.

Long Meadow (near lower Chiquito Creek campground), Cold Springs Meadow, Cold Springs West Meadow, and un-named meadow 506M91 have been identified as high priority sites for restoration. All of these meadows have compromised hydrologic function, with vertically and laterally unstable streams at the downstream end of each meadow. If left untreated, these “headcuts” will migrate upstream, creating deeply incised gullies, which will introduce excessive amounts of sediment into the stream (compromising water quality) and, eventually, dewater the meadows. Stabilization of the headcuts will be accomplished by the construction of rock step-pools and re-vegetation of denuded channel banks by native sod and live-stake willow plantings. The step-pools will mimic natural channel morphology and will act to dissipate the energy of the water currently eroding the headcuts and channel banks. Where appropriate, additional in-stream rock structures (e.g., cross-vanes or J-hooks) will be placed to reduce near bank shear stress near unstable sections of channel bank and/or where grade control is needed. Restoration of Long Meadow is particularly important because it currently supports a community of mountain yellow legged frogs, a Forest Service sensitive species. Impacts from roads and/or OHV tracks in the vicinity of these meadows will also be addressed by either 1) bringing the road or track up to maintenance standards or 2) closing/obliterating the OHV tracks if they are not well sited.

This will be a collaborative effort between the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council (YSRCDC) and the U.S. Forest Service. The YSRCDC will organize and offer two field trips to stakeholders and, with the assistance of the U.S. Forest Service, help educate the public on meadow function as an important component of healthy forest watersheds.

Project Summary and Deliverables

The Project will entail the stabilization and/or restoration of four meadows on the Sierra National Forest, within the upper Chiquito Creek watershed. The desired condition (outcome) for the restoration projects include:

- Stabilization and preservation of 31 acres of montane meadow;

- 1 mile of improved and stabilized stream channel.
- Cessation of erosion and impacts to water quality from the meadows;
- Protection of 0.3 stream miles of mountain yellow legged frog habitat;
- 2 acre reduction in encroaching conifers within the project meadows;
- 0.5 acre reduction of invasive noxious weeds;
- Approximately 0.3 miles of tracks and system roads will be closed and/or restored to prevent impacts to adjacent meadows; and
- Two field trips to educate the community and surrounding stakeholders on the direct and indirect benefits of meadow restoration and the potential risks associated with climate change.
- Involve stakeholders with restoration work as appropriate

Environmental Setting

The meadow restoration project areas occur within the upper Chiquito Creek watershed, located in the north-central part of the Sierra National Forest, just south of Yosemite National Park (Figures 1 and 2). Current land uses include varied recreational activities, fuels management projects, commercial hazard tree removal, livestock grazing, and watershed restoration projects.

Workplan and Schedule

Detailed Project Deliverables	Timeline
SNC Grant Authorization	June, 2012
Develop Collection Agreement with U.S. Forest Service.	September 2012
Six month progress report SNC	December, 2012
Hiring of Forest Service crews and first field trip (USFS/YSRCDC).	February-June, 2013
Twelve month progress report to SNC	June 2013
Procure and deliver restoration materials (USFS).	July-September, 2013
Removal encroaching conifers (USFS).	July- September, 2013
Field Trip #1 (pre-restoration tour)	August, 2013
Begin meadow restoration (Long Meadow, Cold Springs Meadow including noxious weed eradication)	August –October, 2013
Harvest and live-stake planting of native willow at restoration sites and installation of exclosure.	October, 2013
Eighteen month progress report SNC	December, 2013
Hiring of Forest Service crews and second field trip (USFS/YSRCDC).	February-June, 2014
Complete meadow restoration (Cold Springs West and 506M91)	July-September, 2014
Field Trip #2 (post-restoration tour)	September, 2014
Continued harvest and live-stake planting of native willow at restoration sites. Construction of exclosures.	October, 2014
Inspection of restoration sites	July, 2015
Repair (if necessary) of restoration sites and additional live stake willow plantings.	September-October, 2015
Final Report to SNC	December, 2015

Restrictions/Agreements

No property restrictions apply. All project activity will occur on National Forest System Lands and be implemented by the U.S. Forest Service.

Regulatory Requirements and Permits

The projects qualify for Categorical Exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and have a water quality waiver with the State of California, Regional Water Quality Control Board. As such, further permitting by other State and Federal agencies is not required.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA has been completed under Categorical Exclusion (36 CFR 220.6 (e) (7)). The disturbance footprint is less than five acres, there are no impacts to listed species, and no heavy equipment will be used in the meadows, thus these projects qualify for a CEQA exemption under 15333, Small Habitat Restoration projects.

Organizational Capacity

This project will be a collaborative effort between the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council (YSRDC) and the U.S. Forest Service, Sierra National Forest. The YSRDC has extensive experience managing and administering grants and watershed programs and will act as fiscal agent and coordinate public outreach and education.

The U.S. Forest Service has the organizational and scientific expertise to implement and monitor the restoration activities. Project implementation will be managed by a journey level hydrologist with Rosgen Certification. The rest of the Forest Service team will be made up of experienced hydrologic technicians, journey level resource scientists, and professional equipment operators.

Cooperation and Community Support

The YSRDC, with assistance from its partners, works on a variety of natural resource conservation and education project and programs within the foothill communities of four counties. Partners include; Tribal Governments, Fire Safe Councils, Resource Conservation Districts, Board of Supervisors, Community Development Councils and other grass root non-profit groups. These partnerships help leverage public involvement in local restoration projects like this while also providing capacity to the project as a whole.

Long Term Management and Sustainability

All restoration work in the project meadows will be protected from livestock or human impacts by a fenced enclosure for a minimum of five years to allow for full vegetative recovery. The restoration sites will be inspected by a U.S Forest Service journey level hydrologist biannually to ensure proper function of the restoration structures. If modifications and/or repairs to structures are needed, a prescription will be developed by June of that inspection year and maintenance carried out in August or September. The health and vigor of the native sod and willow used to stabilize the restoration sites will also be evaluated. If additional plantings are required, they will be conducted each year at the appropriate time until complete and stable re-vegetation has occurred.

Performance Measures

Linear Stream Bank Protected

- Beasore Creek –880 feet of stream bank will be restored/stabilized downstream of the primary restoration structure. 1,400 linear feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.

- Long Meadow Creek – 4500 feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.
- Un-named Tributary to NF Willow Creek – 3,000 feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.
- Un-named tributary to Beasore Creek – 1280 feet will be protected upstream from continued erosion.

Acres of Meadow Preserved

- Cold Springs Meadow – 12 acres
- Cold Springs Meadow West – 7 acres
- Long Meadow - 8 acres
- Meadow 506M91 - 4 acres

Mass Pollutant Reduced Per Year

- Use of the Rosgen “BANCS” model to quantify bank erosion in the gullied and denuded parts of the project meadows. The model allows for a quantitative analysis of cubic yards/year and tons/year of sediment from selected study banks.

Appendix B3
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
PROPOSITION 84 - DETAILED BUDGET FORM

Project Name: Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project
Applicant: Yosemite-Sequoia Resource Conservation Development Council

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Hydrologist	\$2,682.48	\$335.31	\$335.31	\$335.31		\$3,688.41
GS-05 Crew Boss	\$3,367.38	\$140.32	\$140.32			\$3,648.02
GS-05 Crew Member	\$3,622.08					\$3,622.08
GS-03 Crew Member	\$3,513.44	\$125.48	\$125.48			\$3,764.40
GS-03 Crew Member	\$3,513.44					\$3,513.44
GS-03 Crew Member	\$3,513.44					\$3,513.44
Community outreach & execution of 2 fields trips	\$900.00	\$900.00				\$1,800.00
DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$21,112.26	\$1,501.11	\$601.11	\$335.31	\$0.00	\$23,549.79

SECTION TWO INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Rock (includes material, truck, labor, equipment, and haul)	\$972.00					
Rock Bars	\$100.00					
Corrugated Tubing	\$250.00					
Sand Bags	\$50.00					
Loader	\$1,500.00					
Power Wheel Barrows	\$1,200.00					
Fencing and fencing supplies	\$3,200.00					
Metal Landscaping Stakes (8 in)	\$400.00					
Vehicles and Trailers	\$3,488.10					
Monitoring Hydrologist	0	\$335.31	\$335.31	\$335.31		
Maintenance - Labor	0	\$265.80	\$265.80			
Maintenance- Material	0	\$100.00	\$100.00			
Mileage for field trips	\$100.00	\$100.00				
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$11,260.10	\$801.11	\$701.11	\$335.31	\$0.00	\$13,097.63
PROJECT TOTAL:	\$32,372.36	\$2,302.22	\$1,302.22	\$670.62	\$0.00	\$36,647.42

SECTION THREE						Total
Administrative Costs (Costs may not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost) :						
<i>*Organization operating/overhead</i>	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00				\$3,500.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	\$34,122.36	\$4,052.22	\$1,302.22	\$670.62	\$0.00	\$40,147.42

SECTION FOUR OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
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District Ranger	\$449.00					\$449.00
Wildlife Biologist	\$584.00					\$584.00
Fisheries	\$760.00					\$760.00
Hydrologist	\$672.00					\$672.00
Botanist	\$347.00					\$347.00
Range Ecologist	\$333.00					\$333.00
Archeology	\$692.00					\$692.00
Siviculture	\$326.00					\$326.00
Engineering	\$324.00					\$324.00
Soils	\$384.00					\$384.00
Recreation	\$302.00					\$302.00
Vehicle Cost	\$950.00					\$950.00
Supplies and Materials	\$550.00					\$550.00
USFS Fieldwork to support NEPA Analysis						
Hydrologist	\$1,334.00					\$1,334.00
Hydrology Crew	\$5,320.00					\$5,320.00
Wildlife Biologist	\$1,168.00					\$1,168.00
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Botany Crew	\$2,128.00					\$2,128.00
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Recreation	\$1,208.00					\$1,208.00
Fisheries Biologist	\$1,536.00					\$1,536.00
Soil Scientist	\$1,536.00					\$1,536.00
Vehicles	\$1,250.00					\$1,250.00
Supplies and materials	\$2,500.00					\$2,500.00
Total Other Contributions:	\$30,389.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,389.00

NOTE: The categories listed on this form are examples and may or may not be an expense related to the project. Rows may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.

* Operating Costs should be allocated to the percentage that is applicable to the grant based on your cost allocation methodology and cannot exceed 15% of your total project costs.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service
Pacific-Southwest Region

DECISION MEMO

Restoration of Meadows in the Upper Chiquito Creek Watershed

Sierra National Forest
Fresno County, California

DECISION

It is my decision to proceed with the restoration of six meadow complexes (consisting of 13 meadow segments) in the upper Chiquito Creek watershed (Table1). Restoration will include installing or repairing rock or log structures used to stabilize headcuts and unstable channel banks. Project objectives are to protect aquatic and riparian habitat and hydrologic condition of these meadow systems. The projects will be completed using a combination of hand tools with the assistance of power wheelbarrows used to transport material to and from the project area. Power wheelbarrows will use existing stock trails and/or will be rolled over 4'x8' sheets of plywood and will not create new areas of compaction. Implementation will occur August-September, 2012-2015.

Meadow Number/Name	WIN Sites
506M53 (Long Meadow - near Chiquito Creek)	55157, 55177, 55178, 55277, 55278, 55290, 55397
506M90 (Cold Springs Meadow), 506M91	55179, 55180
506M132, 506M140	55403, 55376
506M180/181 (Long Meadow - near Globe Rock) 506M171, 506M183, 506M184, 506M185,	55412, 55175, 55404, 55413, 55416, 55417, 55415
506M169	55154, 55155, 55193, 55378, 55398, 55399
506M374 (Klette Meadow)	55410

Table1. List of meadows and associated Watershed Improvement Need (WIN) sites.

Without repair, headcuts and unstable channel banks will continue to erode, causing watershed degradation including channel incision, stream bank instability, and lowering of meadow ground water tables, which could directly impact water quality and quantity. Declining water tables in meadows can also cause fuel loading by conifer encroachment and have the potential for changing the vegetation type from riparian-obligate to upland plant species.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Internal Forest Service scoping of the project consisted of the following resource areas: Botany, Heritage, Aquatics/Fisheries, Wildlife, Range, and Hydrology. The project was published in the Schedule of Proposed Actions and available for public review on 7/20/2010. The project can be referenced by SOPA# 30805.

FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS

I have determined that this action is consistent with the Sierra National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP), as amended by the Sierra Nevada Framework. The LRMP provides direction to "Recommend and establish priorities for restoration practices in: (1) areas with compaction in excess of soil quality standards, (2) areas with lowered water tables, or (3) areas that are actively down cutting or that have historic gullies."

REASONS FOR CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

I find that the proposed action qualifies under provisions of FSH 1909.15, 31.2, Category 7, "Modification or maintenance of stream or lake aquatic habitat improvement structures using native materials or normal practices". This proposed action is therefore excluded from further documentation in either an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. The following is a list of contributing data that led to my conclusion that there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action:

- The project is limited in scope and magnitude, which diminishes the physical and biological effects.
- There are no known Native American religious or cultural sites, archeological sites, or historic properties or areas within the project area that will be affected by the proposed action. If during project activities archeological evidence is found, consultation with the District Archeologist will determine necessary protection measures. Mandatory section 106 requirements for this undertaking have been met.
- Public health and safety are not adversely affected by the proposed action.
- There are no steep slopes or highly erosive soils that will be affected.
- The project does not fall within or impact any Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, or Natural Recreation Areas.
- There are no roadless areas within the project area.
- There are no known effects to the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risk.
- The action does not violate Federal, State, or local laws or regulations imposed for the protection of the environment.
- All practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm have been adopted.
- There are no threatened, endangered, proposed, or Forest Service sensitive (TEPS) species that will be affected by project implementation. Surveys for TEPS species were conducted prior to project implementation. If TEPS species are found during project implementation, project priorities will be re-evaluated and adjusted as necessary.

ADDITIONAL DESIGN MEASURES

Decontamination of all boots, equipment and gear (that may have used in other meadows) must occur prior to entry into any new meadow segment. This is to avoid the spread of the *Chytrid* fungus, which is known to occur on the forest. Decontamination can be accomplished by:

- At the site (at least a 100 feet from aquatic features), scrape off all mud/dirt from boots and equipment that may have come into contact with water or sediment.
- Scrub and soak boots and equipment with either a 75% ethanol solution or a 10% bleach/water solution for at least five minutes.
- All traces of the disinfectant should be rinsed with clean water and removed from equipment before entering another aquatic habitat.

Most of these meadows contain potential fens and suitable habitat for the sensitive plant species *Bruchia bolanderi*, *Epilobium howellii*, *Helodium blandowii*, *Meesia triquetra*, *M. uliginosa*, *Peltigera hydrothyria*, and *Trifolium bolanderi*. The cache areas and ingress / egress routes may have habitat for: *Hulsea brevifolia*, *Lewisia disepala*, *L. kelloggii* ssp. *kelloggii*, *Lupinus gracilipes*, and *Lupinus lepidus* var. *culbertsonii*. All these meadows need to be surveyed prior to project implementation and any sensitive plants or noxious weeds flagged for avoidance. Noxious weeds should be hand-pulled for up to 5 years until they are gone from the site. Project design measures for botany and noxious weeds for all restoration sites include:

- All meadows, cache sites, and ingress/egress sites will be surveyed for sensitive plants and noxious weeds. Sensitive plant and weed sites will be flagged for avoidance to protect the rare plants and to avoid spreading the weeds.
- When there is a need to travel through a fen area, either with repeated foot traffic or with mechanical wheelbarrows, please lay out a track of plywood and / or slash to cushion the fen and avoid gouging it. This should be removed when no longer needed.
- When removing sod for placement in the repaired headcut, take patches no more than 30 X 30 cm, and try to space them at least 1 m apart to allow the divets to recover as quickly as possible. Choose areas with abundant sedges and other rhizomatous graminoids rather than areas dominated by forbs or with a lot of bare soil. **Please avoid fens as much as possible.**
- Any willows to be planted should be obtained from as close to the WIN site as possible. More information on willows has been provided in a separate memo assembled by Jared Paul using advice from Intermountain Nursery in Prather.
- All mechanized equipment (e.g. bobcat, power wheelbarrows) should arrive on site clean to avoid introducing noxious weeds or other pathogens or contaminants.
- All noxious weeds occurring in the meadows and at cache and ingress/egress routes should be manually removed prior to project implementation. Work with the Forest Botanist regarding timing of removal in relation to life cycle of weed species (e.g. bull thistle can be hand pulled early in the season and the pulled plants left on site, if later in the season when seeds are forming they must be bagged and removed).

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

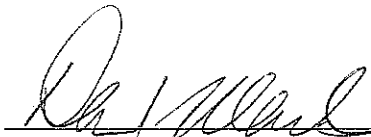
Implementation of this proposal may take place immediately. Expected completion date for all meadow complexes is September 30th 2015.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OR APPEAL


This decision is not subject to appeal under 36 CFR 215.8 and is not subject to the notice and comment procedures under 36 CFR 215.4.

CONTACT PERSON

For further information regarding this project, contact: Keith Andy Stone, District Hydrologist, Bass Lake Ranger District, Sierra National Forest at (559) 877-2218 ext. 3143, e-mail: kstone@fs.fed.us, or by mail at Bass Lake Ranger District, Sierra National Forest, 57003 Road 225, North Fork, CA 93643.



Dave Martin
District Ranger
Bass Lake Ranger District



Date



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Sierra
National
Forest

1600 Tollhouse Road
Clovis, CA 93611-0532
(559) 297-0706
(559) 294-4809 FAX
(559) 322-0425 TTY

January 17, 2012

Jim Branham, Executive Officer
Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC)
5039 Fairgrounds Rd, Mariposa, CA 95338

Dear Mr. Jim Branham:

As Director of the U.S. Forest Service's Central California Consortium (CCC) program, I fully support the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council's Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project.

The CCC is a collaborative effort between various USDA agencies, community based organizations, colleges, universities, and central California communities. It is a kindergarten through employment, environmental education, minority, and outreach and recruitment program sponsored by the USDA Forest Service. The CCC serves as a bridge between the Forest Service, underserved areas, and community partners. Our mission is to diversify the Forest Service workforce by encouraging careers in natural resources, higher education, and employment through mentoring, leadership, and community outreach efforts. The CCC offers an array of opportunities including paid summer work experience, job training, educational workshops, and leadership activities. Since 1996, the CCC has employed over 1,000 diverse students as Forest Service employees.

The CCC is submitting a full SNC proposal called the Generation Green Stewardship Crew. Through this grant proposal, the CCC will partner with the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council in their SNC grant proposal, the Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project. The overall goal of this project is to completely restore and/or preserve the hydrologic function of four degraded meadow systems on the Sierra National Forest within the Upper and Lower Chiquito Creek watersheds such that water quality impacts from accelerated erosion is eliminated and water storage and residence time is maximized, increasing annual water availability to riparian-aquatic systems, wildlife, and livestock. As a partner, the CCC will recruit, train, and coordinate a crew which will focus on this meadow restoration project. Additionally, a second CCC crew will focus on noxious weed removal. The CCC will recruit diverse college students that are interested in or pursuing natural resource related fields as crew members. The students will receive valuable work experience, environmental education, and exposure to Forest Service careers.

The CCC is excited to partner with the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council. This partnership will help us improve the land, while providing valuable work experience and mentoring to diverse youth. If you should have any questions, please contact me at (559) 297-0706 ext. 4962 or joftedal@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

James Oftedal
Central CA Consortium Director
USDA Forest Service





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Bass Lake
Ranger
District

57003 Road 225
North Fork, CA 93643
(559) 877-2218
(559) 877-3108 FAX
(800) 735-2929 CA Relay Service

File Code: 1580/2330/2510/5150

Date: January 19, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive Ste. 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Sierra Nevada Conservancy;

I have reviewed the project proposals located within the Bass Lake Ranger District of the Sierra National Forest that are now being submitted as full grant applications to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy under Proposition 84. The applications include the following proposed projects:

- Nelder Grove Hazardous Fuels Reduction;
- Generation Green Stewardship Crews;
- Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration; and
- Kelty Meadow Campground Restoration and Facilities Improvement.

This is a great opportunity for my staff to enhance our partnership with interested stakeholders and I wholeheartedly support these proposals. Thank you for presenting this opportunity to connect people with and improve our National Forest lands.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. MARTIN
District Ranger





Central Sierra Watershed Committee
Jeannie Habben, Facilitator/Coordinator
Post Office Box 1061, Coarsegold, CA 93614
559-642-3263

January 10, 2012

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
PO Box 415
North Fork, CA 93643

Re: Upper Chiquito Creek Watershed Project

To Whom it May Concern:

The Central Sierra Watershed Committee (CSWC) is pleased to support the proposal by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Y/S RC&D Council) to repair meadows within the Upper Chiquito Creek and to conduct public education and outreach on these delicate and critical ecosystems. The mission of CSWC is to promote the quality, quantity and aesthetic values of our water resources through the conservation and restoration of our watersheds. By collaborating and supporting Y/S RC&D as it pertains to this high priority planning project we are honoring our mission statement.

By repairing unstable stream channels and gully formations in meadows, we are avoiding the possibility of complete dewatering of the meadow system in the future. The public education and outreach portion will strengthen the communities' understanding about these ecosystems and the importance of them in the proper functioning of watersheds as a whole. The repair of these meadows, as well as continued public involvement, is not only good for the meadow, watershed, surrounding plant and animal species, the ecosystem, but it serves as a model for other meadow restoration projects throughout the region.

The major goal of CSWC is to create partnerships using a collaborative approach to find solutions for improving our watersheds and to educate those in the watersheds we serve in all areas of natural resources. Because of this, CSWC is prepared to coordinate and communicate with Y/S RC&D to assist with the success of this planning project. Additionally we are planning on actively participating with the educational outreach portion of this project.

The CSWC is pleased to support and partner with the Y/S RC&D Council on this and other projects, and will provide technical assistance, connections with other partners, and other in-kind support as needed. We hope you will give this project your full consideration. Please feel free to call us at 559-642-3263 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeannie Habben
Facilitator/Coordinator
Central Sierra Resource Conservation District

Covering the foothills of Mariposa, Madera, and Fresno Counties

December 31, 2011

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
PO Box 415
North Fork, CA 93643

RE: Support for Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

The Foundation For Resource Conservation, Inc. strongly supports the proposal by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Y/S RC&D Council) to repair meadows within the Upper Chiquito Creek and to conduct public education and outreach on these delicate and critical ecosystems. By repairing unstable stream channels and gully formations in meadows, we are avoiding the possibility of complete dewatering of the meadow system in the future. The public education and outreach portion will strengthen the communities' understanding about these ecosystems and the importance of them in the proper functioning of watersheds as a whole. The repair of these meadows, as well as continued public involvement, is not only good for the meadow, watershed, surrounding plant and animal species, the ecosystem, but it serves as a model for other meadow restoration projects throughout the region.

The Foundation For Resource Conservation, Inc. is directly interested in educating the public on any environmental concerns. We have partnered with many groups, including Yosemite/Sequoia RC&D. Our group would like to help in this restoration project. We could bring a youth force into help do the ground work, and provides the youth with job training.

The Foundation For Resource Conservation, Inc is pleased to support and partner with the Y/S RC&D Council on this and other projects, and will provide technical assistance, connections with other partners, and other in-kind support as needed. We hope you will give this project your full consideration. Please feel free to call us at 559-877-4620 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diann Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Diann Miller, Board Member, Secretary



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF MADERA

MADERA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
200 WEST FOURTH STREET / MADERA, CALIFORNIA 93637
(559) 675-7700 / FAX (559) 673-3302 / TDD (559) 675-8970

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

FRANK BIGELOW
DAVID ROGERS
RONN DOMINICI
MAX RODRIGUEZ
TOM WHEELER

TANNA G. BOYD, Clerk of the Board

January 10, 2012

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation
and Development Council
P.O. Box 415
North Fork, CA 93643

RE: Support for Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

Madera County strongly supports the proposal by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Y/S RC&D Council) to repair meadows within the Upper Chiquito Creek and to conduct public education and outreach on these delicate and critical ecosystems. By repairing unstable stream channels and gully formations in meadows, we are avoiding the possibility of complete dewatering of the meadow system in the future. Public education and outreach will strengthen the communities' understanding of these ecosystems and their important role in the proper functioning of watersheds as a whole. The repair of these meadows, as well as continued public involvement, will benefit the meadow, watershed, surrounding plant and animal species, the ecosystem, and serve as a model for other meadow restoration projects throughout the region.

Madera County is pleased to support the Y/S RC&D Council on this and other projects, and will provide assistance and support as needed. We hope you will give this project your full consideration. Please feel free to call us at 559.675.7700 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ronn Dominici
Chairman

Cc: Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau

January 11, 2012

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
PO Box 415
North Fork, CA 93643

RE: Support for Grant Application


To Whom It May Concern:

The Sierra Vista National Scenic Byway Association (SVNSBA) strongly supports the proposal by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Y/S RC&D Council) to repair meadows within the Upper Chiquito Creek and to conduct public education and outreach on these delicate and critical ecosystems. By repairing unstable stream channels and gully formations in meadows, we are avoiding the possibility of complete de-watering of the meadow system in the future. The public education and outreach portion will strengthen the communities' understanding about these ecosystems and the importance of them in the proper functioning of watersheds as a whole. The repair of these meadows, as well as continued public involvement, is not only good for the meadow, watershed, surrounding plant and animal species, the ecosystem, but it serves as a model for other meadow restoration projects throughout the region.

The Sierra Vista National Scenic Byway Association is a non-profit organization of volunteers dedicated to promoting the recreation value of the SVNSB and aiding in Byway maintenance and improvements.

The SVNSBA is pleased to support and partner with the Y/S RC&D Council on this and other projects, and will provide technical assistance, connections with other partners, and other in-kind support as needed. We hope you will give this project your full consideration. Please feel free to e-mail us at info@sierravistascenicbyway.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jack McGowan,
President, SVNSBA

North Fork Community Development Council, Inc.

PO Box 1484, North Fork, CA 93643 | 559.877.2244

January 12, 2012

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
PO Box 415
North Fork, CA 93643

RE: Support for Grant Application

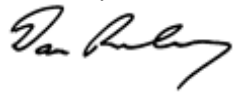
To Whom It May Concern:

The North Fork Community Development Council (NFCDC) strongly supports the proposal by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Y/S RC&D Council) to repair meadows within the Upper Chiquito Creek and to conduct public education and outreach on these delicate and critical ecosystems. By repairing unstable stream channels and gully formations in meadows, we are avoiding the possibility of complete dewatering of the meadow system in the future. The public education and outreach portion will strengthen the communities' understanding about these ecosystems and the importance of them in the proper functioning of watersheds as a whole. The repair of these meadows, as well as continued public involvement, is not only good for the meadow, watershed, surrounding plant and animal species, the ecosystem, but it serves as a model for other meadow restoration projects throughout the region.

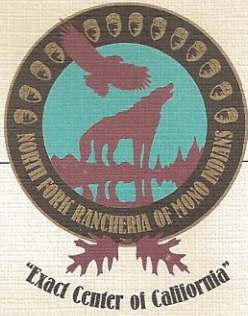
The mission of the NFCDC is to promote the social, economic and environmental welfare of North Fork, CA.

The NFCDC is pleased to support and partner with the Y/S RC&D Council on this and other projects, and will provide technical assistance, connections with other partners, and other in-kind support as needed. We hope you will give this project your full consideration. Please feel free to call us at 559-877-2244 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Rosenberg", written in a cursive style.

Dan Rosenberg
NFCDC Board President



NORTH FORK RANCHERIA OF MONO INDIANS OF CALIFORNIA

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE
P.O. Box 929
North Fork, CA 93643-0929
(559) 877-2461
Fax (559) 877-2467
1-866-291-9909

December 23, 2011

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
PO Box 415
North Fork, CA 93643

RE: Support for Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

The North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California strongly supports the proposal by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Y/S RC&D Council) to repair meadows within the Upper Chiquito Creek (which are part of our ancestral lands) and to conduct public education and outreach on these delicate and critical ecosystems. By repairing unstable stream channels and gully formations in meadows, we are avoiding the possibility of complete dewatering of the meadow system in the future. The public education and outreach portion will strengthen the communities' understanding about these ecosystems and the importance of them in the proper functioning of watersheds as a whole. The Tribe would like to help educate the public as to the history of these areas and the way our people use to take care of the meadows in the past before the United States Forest Service stopped burning and pruning of vegetation there. The repair of these meadows, as well as continued public involvement, is not only good for the meadow, watershed, surrounding plant and animal species, the ecosystem, but it serves as a model for other meadow restoration projects throughout the region.

The North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians is a federally recognized Tribe that has worked for years with the United States Forest Service to try to include our ways into the decisions made concerning our surrounding areas.

Furthermore, this project will bring a heightened awareness of environmental justice, and a proactive plan for moving forward with Tribal knowledge. The cultural identity of tribes is often tied to specific plant species, and a changing climate portends a shift in vegetation and animal survival and ultimately the disappearance of the culture and traditions of the Tribe.

The reduction to the loss of wildlife and plants species is vitally important to the Tribe. The extent of the benefit will be monitored, tracked and reported during the public meetings and shared with our people.

The North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California is pleased to support and partner with the Y/S RC&D Council on this and other projects, and will provide technical assistance, connections with other partners, and access to our knowledge when requested. We hope you will give this project your full consideration. Please feel free to call us at 559-877-2461 and ask for R. Brett Matzke our Director of Environmental Protection if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elaine J. Fink". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Elaine J. Fink
Tribal Chairwoman

December 22, 2011

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
PO Box 415
North Fork, CA 93643

RE: Support for Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

Southern Sierra Environmental Consulting, hereafter SSEC, strongly supports the proposal by the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (Y/S RC&D Council) to repair meadows within the Upper Chiquito Creek and to conduct public education and outreach on these delicate and critical ecosystems. By repairing unstable stream channels and gully formations in meadows, we are avoiding the possibility of complete dewatering of the meadow system in the future. The public education and outreach portion will strengthen the communities' understanding about these ecosystems and the importance of them in the proper functioning of watersheds as a whole. The repair of these meadows, as well as continued public involvement, is not only good for the meadow, watershed, surrounding plant and animal species, the ecosystem, but it serves as a model for other meadow restoration projects throughout the region.

The purpose of SSEC is to help local business and citizens of the community understand and work with local Air Pollution Control Districts and the Air Resources Board regarding air quality issues. Local ecosystems are an integral and vital part of our air quality and community health.

SSEC is pleased to support and partner with the Y/S RC&D Council on this and other projects, and will provide technical assistance, connections with other partners, and other in-kind support as needed. We hope you will give this project your full consideration. Please feel free to call us at (559) 658-1831 if you have any questions.

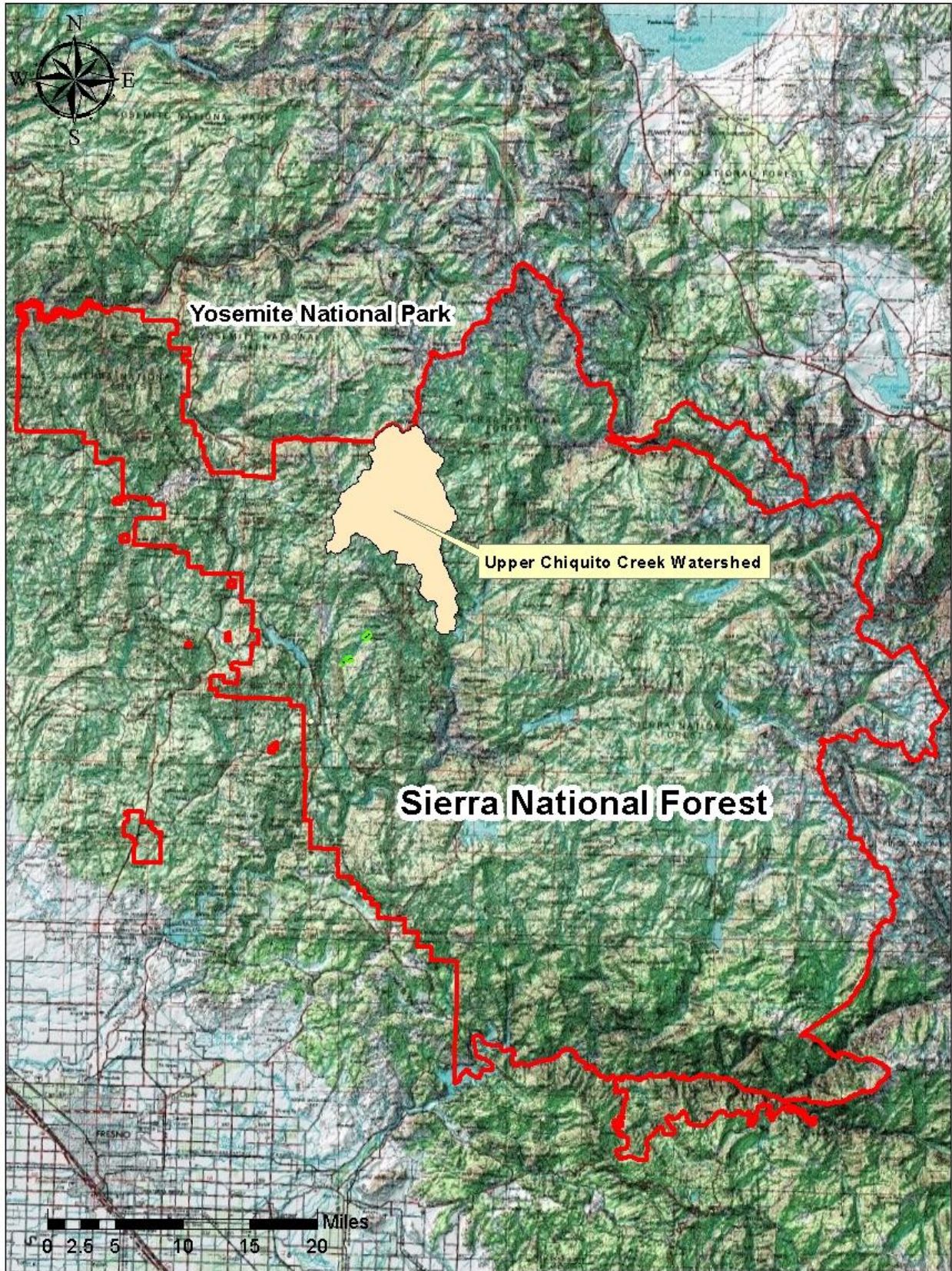
Sincerely,

Sharon Wedro

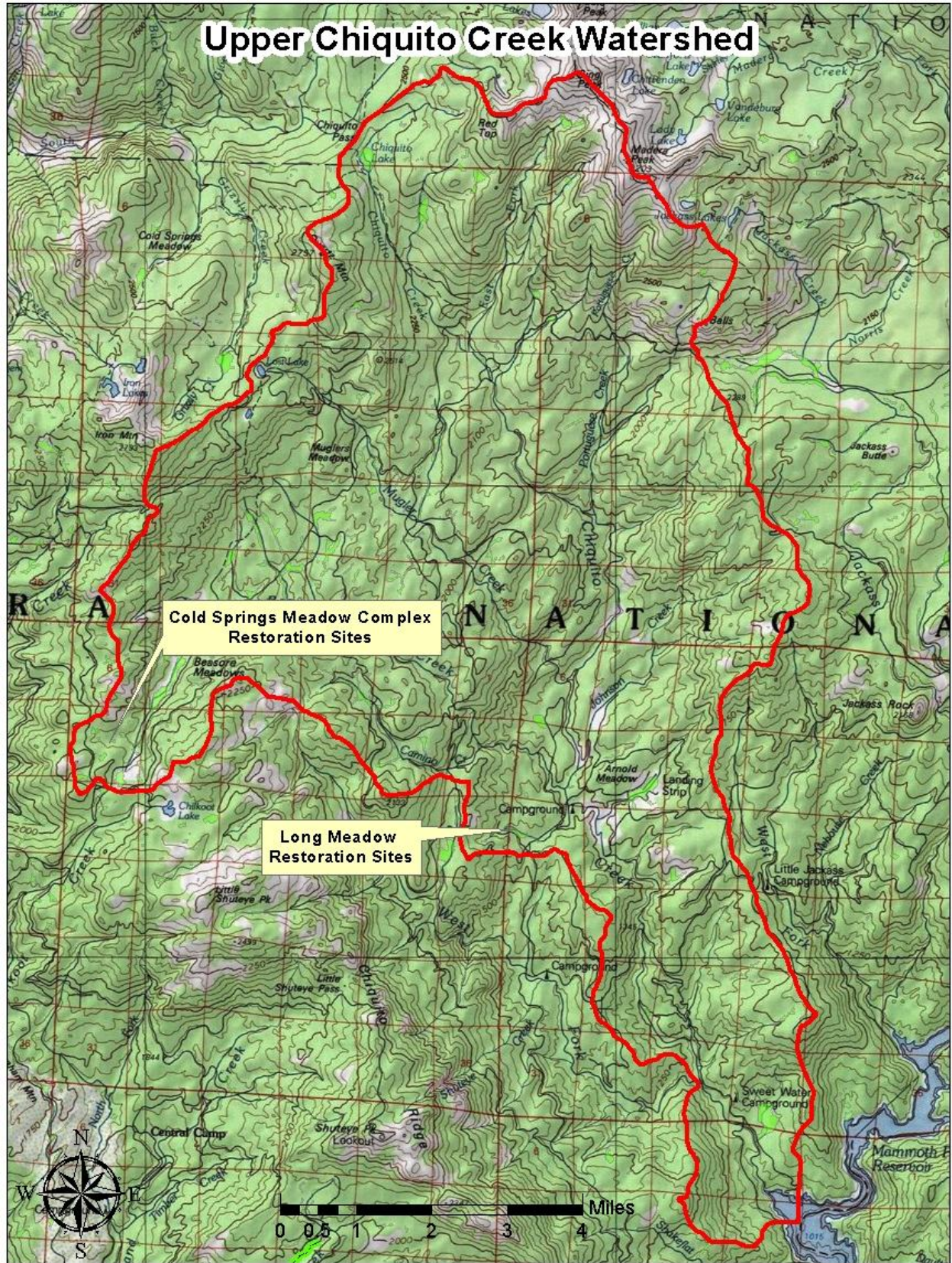
Long Term Management and Sustainability Plan

All restoration work in the project meadows will be protected from livestock or human impacts by a fenced enclosure for a minimum of five years to allow for full vegetative recovery. The restoration sites will be inspected by a U.S Forest Service journey level hydrologist biannually to ensure proper function of the restoration structures. If modifications or repairs to structures are needed, a prescription will be developed by June of that inspection year and maintenance carried out in August or September. The health and vigor of the native sod and willow used to stabilize the restoration sites will also be evaluated. If additional plantings are required, they will be conducted each year at the appropriate time until complete and stable re-vegetation has occurred. The table below outlines the long term management schedule for the project restoration sites:

Management Activity	Date
Project Implementation (Phase One)	October, 2013
Project Implementation (Phase Two)	October, 2014
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2013-2015
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2015
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2015
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2016
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2016
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2016
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2016
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2016
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2017
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2017
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2017
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2017
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2018
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2018
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2018
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2018
Site Inspections and set up livestock enclosure	June, 2019
Site Repair (If necessary)	September, 2019
Site supplemental planting	September-October, 2019
Exclosure breakdown for winter	October, 2019
Permanently remove enclosure but continue to monitor and repair as necessary.	June, 2020 – October, 2024

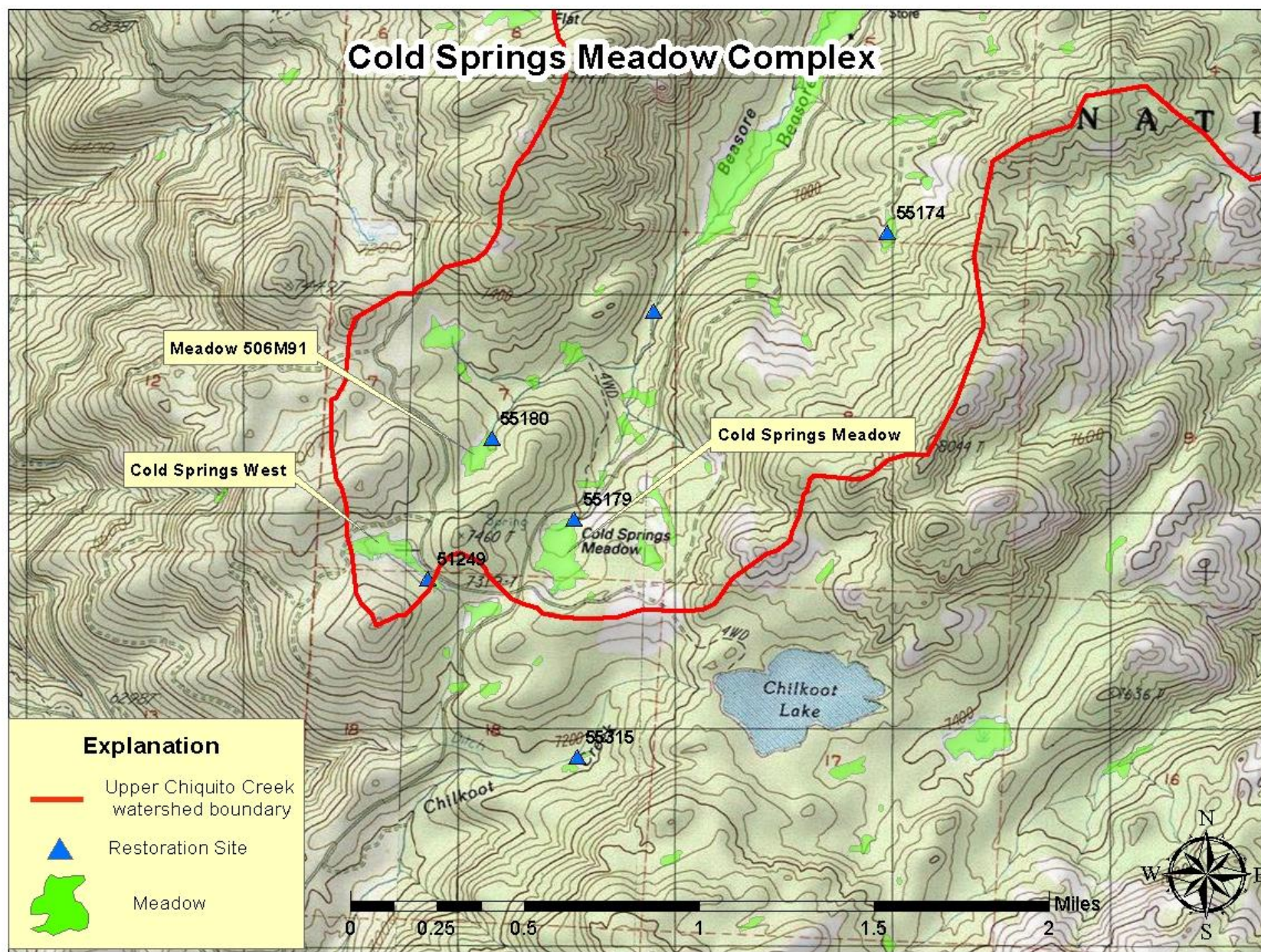


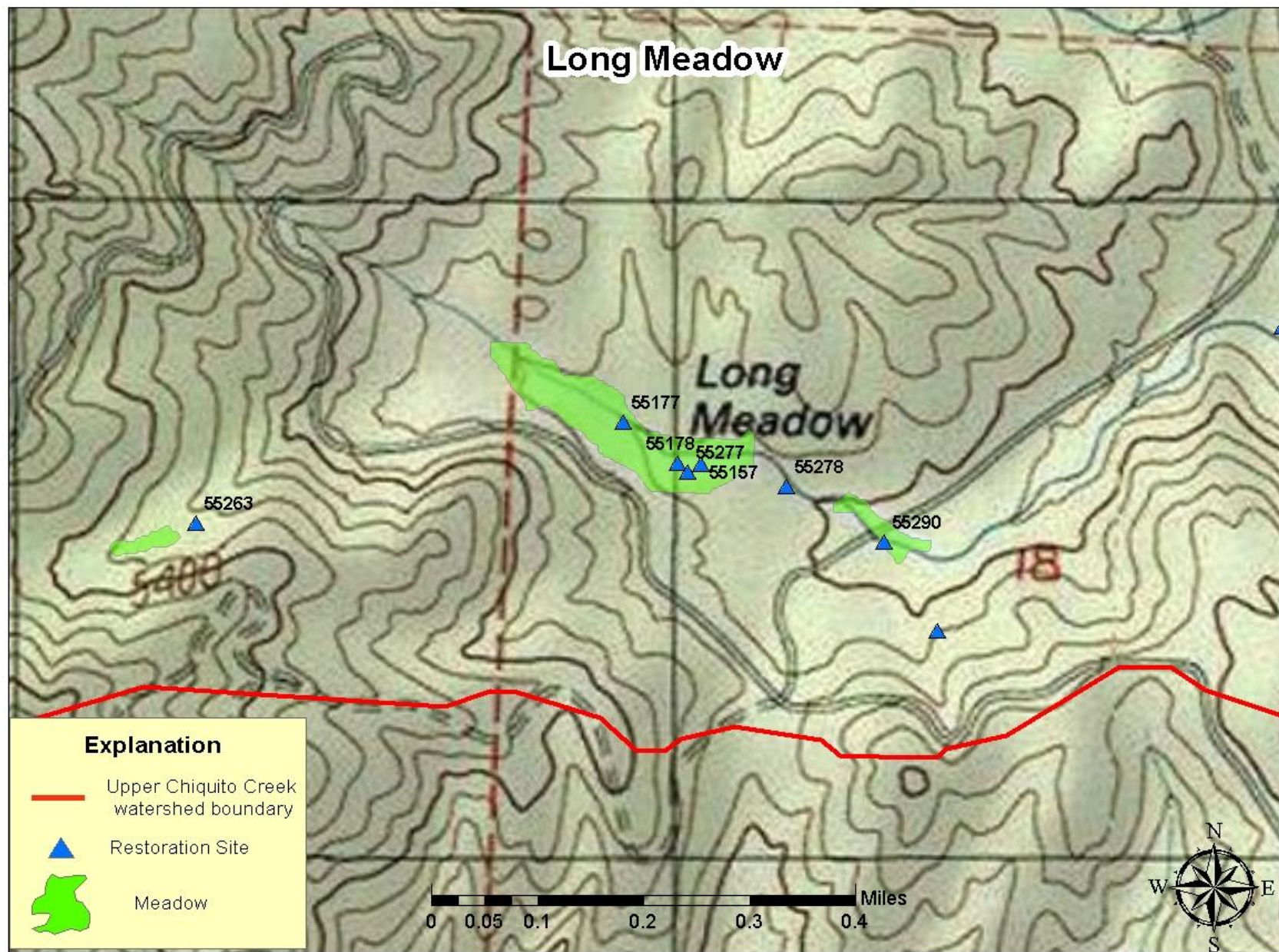
Upper Chiquito Creek Watershed



Parcel Map- N/A

1. Federal Land with no parcel number(s) or/
2. Multi parcel (community fire safe project)

























United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Bass Lake
Ranger
District

57003 Road 225
North Fork, CA 93643
(559) 877-2218
(559) 877-3108 FAX
(800) 735-2929 CA Relay Service

File Code: 1580

Date: February 9, 2012

Brandon L. Sanders
Mt. Whitney Area Representative
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Mr. Sanders

The Sierra National Forest, Bass lake Ranger District, grants the Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council (and their representatives) authorization to access the meadow restoration sites detailed in the "Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project" proposal. The sites include Cold Springs Meadow, Cold Springs West, un-named meadow 506M91, and Long Meadow near lower Chiquito Campground.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. MARTIN
District Ranger

